

Prometheus Radio Project

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flame filching, wave snatching, people-powered radio!

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth St., SW
Washington, DC 20554

3/18/04

Re: Ex Parte Presentations in Creation of a Low Power Radio Service Docket 99-25 and Localism Task Force RM 10803

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On February 26th, in my capacity as the Technical Director of the Prometheus Radio Project, made three Ex Parte presentations about translator licensing and its relationship to available frequencies for low power radio.

The first Ex Parte presentation of roughly 45 minutes to staff of the Federal Communications Commission on February 26th regarding the Commissions policy on the licensing of translators. I met with members of the Localism Task Force, the Office of General Council and the Media Bureau at 1 pm, including Mary Beth Murphy, Maria Baghdadi, Michelle Ellison, Kimberly Reindl, Royce Sherlock, Eric Bash, Jamila Bess Johnson, Harry Wingo, and Robert Ratcliff.

I also made an Ex Parte presentation at 2 pm of roughly 25 minutes to John Cody, Legal Advisor to Chairman Micheal Powell of the Federal Communications Commission.

I also made a third Ex Parte Presentation at 3:30 pm of roughly 10 minutes to Johana Mikes, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein of the Federal Communications Commission on February 26th regarding the Commissions policy on the licensing of translators.

All three meetings covered the same subject matter. I essentially expressed concern that the March 2003 window for translator licensing had allowed applications in many of the spots that had been proposed for LPFM use back in 2000. The arguments made are essentially those raised in the attached letter. At the localism task force meeting, I also expressed concern that the FCC rules governing the allocation of LPFM licenses were not sufficiently tight to prevent abuse of these avowedly local licenses by those who were interested in building national satellite empires of low power repeaters. I also was asked about the general status of low power stations, and described several examples of stations that we had worked with and their successes in serving their communities.

In addition, I provided FCC staff with written materials, a copy of which are attached to this letter.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b), a copy of this letter is being filed electronically today. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at 215-727-9620. I ask your pardon of my late filing in this case... I was not familiar with the Ex Parte rules until recently and it took me a while to understand the requirements.

Sincerely,

Pete Tridish